Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A rack equipment management system comprising:

rack equipment for participating in information processing activities;

a plurality of management components for managing power consumption and thermal load of said rack equipment;

a management control center communicatively coupled to said plurality of management components for coordinating implementation of an equipment rack policy for power consumption and thermal load of said rack equipment, wherein said management control center receives equipment rack policy related information from information processing clients;

a communication link for communicatively coupling said rack equipment and said plurality of management components, wherein said communication link communicates information between said plurality of management components and said rack equipment

2. (Original) A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management component controls said power consumption and said thermal load of said rack equipment within a power consumption and heat dissipation budget.

3. (Previously Presented) A rack equipment management system of claim 1 further comprising an operator interface for presenting disparate information in a unified manner and facilitating adjustments in said rack equipment's operating settings and performance levels.

4. (Previously Presented) A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management component analyzes information communicated on said communications link and determines applicability of management plan policies to said information.

5. (Previously Presented) A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management component directs manipulation of said power consumption and said thermal load of said rack equipment in accordance with management plan policies.

6. (Original) A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said management component is included in an intelligent power distribution unit, wherein said intelligent power distribution unit aggregates multiple power line cords from said rack equipment into a smaller number of power line cords at a rack level.

7. (Original) A rack equipment management system of claim 1 wherein said communication link communicates information compliant with a protocol permitting automatic configuration of power consumption and heat dissipation for said rack equipment.

8. (Currently Amended) A rack equipment management method comprising:

receiving information related to a rack equipment management plan at a management control center via a communication link coupled to rack equipment, wherein said management control center receives equipment rack policy related information from information processing clients;

analyzing policies of said rack equipment management plan associated with rack equipment operation at said management control center; and

directing manipulation of power consumption and thermal load associated with said rack equipment from said management control center via a plurality of management components that are communicatively coupled to said rack equipment.

9. (Original) A rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein said rack equipment is associated with information processing.

10. (Original) A rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein directing includes issuing a command to manipulate operation of equipment associated with supporting said rack equipment operations.

11. (Original) A rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein said manipulation includes instructions to adjust a frequency and a voltage of said rack equipment.

12. (Original) A rack equipment management rack equipment management method of claim 8 wherein said manipulation includes turning on and off said rack equipment.

13. (Previously Presented) A rack equipment management method of claim 8 automatically adjusting said rack equipment management plan interactively.

14. (Withdrawn) A computer usable storage medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for causing a computer system to implement rack equipment management instructions comprising:

an event monitoring module for monitoring the occurrence of triggering events;

a policy review engine module for investigating management plan objectives and policies associated with said triggering event; and

a command generation module for generating performance adjustment commands corresponding to said management plan objectives.

15. (Withdrawn) A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment instructions further comprising a telemetry collection module for monitoring characteristics and activity of equipment associated with said management plan objectives.

16. (Withdrawn) A computer usable storage medium of claim 16 storing rack equipment instructions wherein said telemetry collection module directs retrieval of information for confirming performance adjustment commands are complied with.

17. (Withdrawn) A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions further comprising an event spawning module for generating events.

18. (Withdrawn) A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions wherein said equipment associated with said processing includes support equipment.

19. (Withdrawn) A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions wherein said command generation module generates a command to alter power consumption and thermal load of said rack equipment.

20. (Withdrawn) A computer usable storage medium of claim 14 storing rack equipment management instructions further comprising a management interface module for providing a user interface.